#### OFFICIALS UNCERT

OF GAS FXPLOSION.

Graphic Stories Related By Eye-Witnesses to the Disaster.

CHICAGO, Pb. 6 -- The cause of last night's explosion by wheth a dozen fives were lost, has not yet been fixed Two business men in the vicinity said the explosion was in a defective boiler connected with the gas system in the basement of the building occupied by Butcher Troestel, which employes had attempted to thaw out, Others insisted the explosion was caused by the gas itself, but they were unable to say how the gas had -caused it.

The experts of the People's Gas Company are investigating the cause and are as yet uncertain. They think some one was thawing out a pipe and States. that the explosion resulted. The city fire marshal is likewise uncertain as to the first cause

The most graphic story of the accident was told by J. Pauls, of 66 Twen- missioner Lendenthal, who has been ty-second place, who stood across the seeking a remedy for the congestion street when the building went up.

was blown against a telegraph pole. I problem is the reconstruction of the was facing the market and it seemed online superstructure of the bridge. that the whole building rose in the air at once and then collapsed into the cellar a heap of ruins. I ran across the street and as I crossed the car NEW YORK, Feb. 6.-James J. Holl tracks I could hear the cries of the and Marcollus Harriey Dodge have people imprisoned in the wreckage, been elected directors of the Equivable. The theory that a burglar can be Almost immediately the flames burst Life Assurance Society. Mr. Dolge is prosecuted only for one act in a long Dr. T. L. Ball out all over the place, and it seemed the grandson and heir of Marcollus career, the details of many acts be-

crawling out from the basement. He at Columbia University. did not seem to be badly hurt and called for help. I recognized him as the sausage maker Troestel had hired a few days before. I don't know his | LONDON, Feb. 6.—The Brussels cor- mercial street. The Rising Sun Resdown to help him, and between us clares it absolutely certain that, owwe got him into the street. He was ing to the attitude of the powers and

disconnected the gas mains and they the Boer cause and any idea of fresh conveniences; steam heat. Inquire, caught fire at once. The fire seemed intervention. to follow the pipes and five minutes later the manhole west in Archer ave- BALFOUR SUED FOR SLANDER. nue blew up with a report almost as loud as the first. The manhole in the east followed in a few minutes.

doing anything to help them."

second streeet was a witness to the brication. explosion. He says that no one came from the butcher shop after the shock. "I was standing in the front of my

store when the explosion occurred." Mr. Kleiner said. "I was just looking down Twenty-second street when the building trembled. I saw the entire the street and instantly there came a flash of flame. I turned to the tele- lapse phone and called up several doctors and told them of the lieaster. All of , them responded.

"I realized that something awful had occurred, but I could not tell just what it was. As I turned to look down the street again I heard the tire de. India is threatened with another separtment coming. Then the manholes were famine began to explode and one by one the caps were blown high in the air. The force of the explosion was so great To His Customers for Walking Over that the windows in street cars were shattered.

forget. I do not believe a person in let a little thing like a torn up street the butcher shop or the flat above interfere with his trade; he has built escaped."

On Monday Otto Truestel insured in front of the Page block right up to his life for \$5000 making his wife the his store, and in order to induce peobeneficiary. Yesterday Mrs. Troestel ple to walk over the bridge, he concalled on the insurance agent and tinues his Price Sinshing Clothing Sale. asked if the oldest two children could It pays to walk over that bridge for be insured. She said she had a presentment that something would happen. The agent was instructed to write policies of \$2000 each.

SMUTS TO BOTHA.

Captured Roer Letter Published by a London Paper.

LONDON, Feb. 6.-In accordance with the promise of Mr. Chamberlain, the colonial secretary to parliament. the letter recently captured in South Africa has been published. It is from General Smuts to General Boths and is dated September 2, 1901. General Smuts protests against his dismissal for burning farms at Bremens-

The writer of the letter admits that farm burning violates Boer principles but contends it was justified in this case because Bremensdorp was outside the Boer borders. General Smuts pleads his military prowess as a reason for mitigation of his punishment. In the course of the letter he shows that, at Botha's orders, the Boers If any man has a grudge at Chaundrove their women unwillingly into the British lines to force them into the ture published by some of our con-

concentration camps. this letter as proving Boer bruindly his revenge is complete Plitaburg and treachery, while the Daily News Dispatch. points out that although Smuta was a successful general and a personal friend of Botha, the latter was |nexorable in punishing him for farm to your stomach and it will be good

SITE FOR NEW THEATER.

for a new theater to take the place of the Lyceum at Fourth avenue and Twenty-third street , which shortly will be demolished. The new house, which will be named "New Lyceum," will UNABLE TO PLACE CAUSE be erected in West Forty-Fifth street, 175 feet east of Broadway. The foundation will be laid about April 1, and the house will be finished, it thought, early in October.

ENGLISHMEN SAIL FOR HOME.

NEW YORK: Peb. 5.-Bruce Ismay, W. J. Pierre and W. S. Graves, prominent English sreamship directors who came here two weeks ago, prior to the ican-British teamship pool, have "Just announcement of the gigantle Amersailed for home on the Oceanic. They were as non-commital as when they arrived here.

There's

Nothing

Good "

women well.

himself.

As Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription

tion and cures female weakness.

makes weak women strong and sick

"I was troubled for three years with alcrea-tion and tensile weakness and my doctor gave me but little relief" writes Mrs. Lufu Hunter, of Allenton, St. Lunis, Co., Mo., "I saw an advertisement in the paper of Dischor Percei-Perceite Prescription. I begins the use of it should a year ago. I look have bettles of it am-ine bottle of Looking Medical Discovers, and

Dr. Perce's Common Sense Med

A wholesome and substantial meal

can be had for 15 cents at 513 Com-

FOR RENT

A five-room cottage; all modern

A man who has come west in search

of his wife committed suicide upon

learning that she had secured a di-

vorce and married again. When one

party to the martial compact desires

release it is nothing more than fair

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night and soon grew so bad you could

like that valuable?" One Minute Cough Cure is absolutely safe and acts im-

mediately. For coughs, colds, croup.

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fails to cure. It allows you to eat all the food you want. The most sensitive

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Pacific Coast to

MISSISSIPPI.

hear him breathe all over the house,"

'My little boy took the croup one

that the other should be notified.

W. L. TRULLINGER.

RUSSIAN COUNT IN TROUBLE.

PARIS. Feb. 6 .- A Russian count named Toulouse Lautrec de Savine. who is said to be a naturalized Americ this better than the woman who has can citigen, has been arrested here for tried local doctors and many medicines been in trouble in Frence, when he establishes regularity, stops weakening drains, heals inflammation and ulceraescaped in 1868 and went to the United

BRIDGE MUST BE REBUILT.

NEW YORK Feb. 6.-Birdge Comof traffic on the Brooklyn bridge, says "The first thing I knew," he said, "I the only adequate solution of the

ELECTED DIRECTORS.

that everything was on fire at once. Hartley who expired suddenly at a ing known, is comforting enough to "Then I caught sight of a man directors meeting. He is a student have been originated by the burglar 524 Commercial St. Asteria, Ore. Branch Office: 424 Commercial St.

WILL ABANDON BOER CAUSE.

name. A man who ran up jumped respondent of the Daily Telegraph de- taurant. able to walk and went away at once. Boer leaders, the Dutch government The first explosion in the building is now firmly determined to abandon

LONDON, Feb. 6.-The Sun has brought suit against A. J. Balfour, "We could hear the cries in the government leader in the house of basement growing fainter and we had commons, for slander because of Balto allow the sufferers to die without four's declaration in the house that the Sun's interview with him con-J. J. Kleiner, proprietor of the drug- cerning overtures recently made by store at Archer avenue and Twenty. the Netherlands government is a fa-

MRS. SOFFEL WORSE.

PITTSRURG, Feb. 6 .- Word comes says F. D. Reynolds, Mansfield, O. tonight from Butler that Mrs. Soffel. We feared he would die, but a few the accomplice of the Biddle brothers, doses of One Minute Cough Cure is considerably worse. She takes lit- quickly relieved him and he went to dirion is declared on the verge of col. the croup. Now isn't a cough cure

THREATENED WITH FAMINE

BONDON. Feb. 8-Prom Calcutta and lung troubles it is a certain cure the correspondent of the Dully Mail Very pleasant to take. The little ones says there is little doubt but that like it- CharlesRogers, druggist

PAYS A PREMIUM.

Bridge.

"The scene was one I shall never Herman Wise, the live clothier, don't a bridge leading from the sidewalk Wise's bargains.

WHEAT MARKET.

TACOMA, Feb. 6.-Wheat, bluestem, 64%; club, 63%.

PORTLAND, Feb. 8.-Wheat, Walla Walls, 6166415; Valley, 64; bluestem

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 6 -Wheat, cash, 107% CHICAGO Feb. 6-Wheat, May spening, 1746%; closing, 7846%

SEND IT TO YOUR FRIENDS.

The subscription price of the Semi-Weekly Astorian has been reduced from two dolars to only ONE DOL-LAH A YEAR, You could not may LAR A YEAR. You could not purchase a more valuable gift for a dollar than a year's subscription to the Astorian with which to please people who are acquainted with Astoria or Clatosp county, or with which to interest those who are not acquainted. It goes twice each week for only one dollar a year.

cey M. Depew let him look at the pictemporaries of the bridegroom at the The Conservative papers point to church wedding in Nice and feel that

BE GOOD

to your stomach and it will be good to you. You can have a palatable meal cooked to order and served to suit you at any hour of the day or It can't help night at the New Style Chop House. NEW YORK, Feb. 6.-A site has You know the place, on Eleventh been purchased by Daniel Frohman street. John Blasich is proprietor.

MINERS BOUND OVER.

BAKER CITY, Feb. 6 .- Pifteen miners from the Columbia mine, who were arrested on a charge of riot for com pelling two engineers who took the place of strikers to leave camp, had preliminary hearing today and were bound over in the sum of \$250 each, to await the action of the efreuit court. The men all gave bonds and were reeased this evening

BRITISH LOSSES.

LODNON, Feb. 6.-The war office unight published a summary of British losses in South Africa. Up to January 31, the total reduction of the forces from death or permanent disability, was 15,305 men. The total of casualties, including the surviving wounded, was 5240 officers and 100,701

LARGE GOLD RECEIPTS.

BUTTE, Mont. Feb. 6 - A special to extradition to Bremen on a charge of and found no cure until she began the Miner from Helena says: January swindle. Count de Savine has already the use of "Favorite Prescription." It receipts of gold at Helena assay of fice amounted to \$190,760, the largest receipts for that month in the his tory of the office.

MINING MAN DEAD.

SAN PRANCISCO, Feb. 6.—Captain OUIT PAYING RENT Couch: one of the best known mining men on the coast, died last night The remains will be sent to Great Falls, Montana.

The popular bers of Santiags appears to be as warmly acclaimed outside the banquet hall as inside it: Champsane enters only as an acces-

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outracts matured as follows December 21, 1901, No. 1, January 15, 1902, No. 8,

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